

REMARKS

Claims 2-5, 7-13 and 16-22 are pending in this application. Claims 3, 5 and 16-22 have been allowed, claims 2, 7 and 11 stand rejected, and claims 4, 8-10, 12 and 13 have been objected to. By this amendment, Applicant has canceled claims 2 and 7 without prejudice, and reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in one or more continuing applications. Claims 4, 8-13, 16 and 21 have been amended.

In the Office action mailed November 6, 2006, the Examiner rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C.102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,630,651 to Fishbane. Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,047,425 to Khazaal. Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Khazaal in view of Fishbane. Claims 4, 8-10, 12 and 13 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 3, 5 and 16-22.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejections of claims 2, 7 and 11. In an effort to move the application toward allowance, Applicant has canceled claims 2 and 7, without prejudice, and has amended claim 11 to depend on allowed claim 21. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in one or more continuing applications.

Claim 4 has been rewritten into independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim 2. As such, claim 4 is in a condition for allowance.

Claim 8 has been rewritten into independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim 7. Claims 9 and 12 have been amended to depend on allowable claim 8. Claim 13 has been amended merely to correct two grammatical errors, and remains dependent on allowable claim 12. As such, claim 8, 9, 12 and 13 are in a condition for allowance.

Allowed claim 21 has been amended merely to correct a grammatical error by inserting "is" before "adapted" in the first line of subpart (e). Claims 10, 11 and 16 have been amended to depend on allowed claim 21. As such, claim 21 and claims 10, 11, 16 and 22, which depend on claim 21, are in a condition for allowance.

For the reasons stated above, the application is in a condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant respectfully asks that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued for the application. If the Examiner believes that any issues regarding this application remain, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney. If there are any fees due in connection with this matter, please charge Applicant's Deposit Account No. 01-0265.

Respectfully submitted,

/ Stephen S. Ashley, Jr. /

Stephen S. Ashley, Jr.
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 47,394

Appl. No. 10/763,532
Amdt. dated February 6, 2007
Reply to Office Action of November 6, 2006

Stephen S. Ashley, Jr.
ADAMS EVANS P.A.
2180 Two Wachovia Center
Charlotte, North Carolina 28282
Tel. 704-375-9249
Fax: 704-375-0729
e-mail: ssa@adamspat.com
File No. 3144/1